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PATENT
454311-2220.2

AMENDMENT

It is respectfully requested that the application be amended, without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter, and without any intention of creating any estoppel as follows:

In the Specification:

Please amend the specification without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter, and without any intention of creating any estoppel as to equivalents, as follows.

Kindly rewrite the paragraph at page 1, lines 5-7, to read as follows:

This application claims priority to is a divisional application of U.S. application Ser. No. 09/963,064, filed September 25, 2001 and issued as U.S. Pat. No. 6,727,060 on Apr. 27, 2004, and which claims priority to U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/235,671, filed September 26, 2000, and U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/282,354, filed April 6, 2001.

In the Claims:

It is respectfully requested that the claims be amended, without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter, and without any intention of creating any estoppel as follows.

1-19 (Cancelled).

20. (Withdrawn) A diagnostic method comprising determining the sequence of an acquired immunodeficiency virus envelope gene V3 region before initiating antiretroviral therapy to determine a suitable antiretroviral treatment regimen.
21. (Withdrawn) The diagnostic method according to claim 20, wherein the envelope gene encodes gp160 or gp120.
22. (Withdrawn) The diagnostic method according to claim 20, wherein the acquired immunodeficiency virus is selected from the group consisting of HIV-1 and HIV-2.
23. (Withdrawn) The diagnostic method according to claim 20, wherein the antiretroviral therapy is selected from the group consisting of highly active antiretroviral therapy (HAART), protease inhibitors, fusion inhibitors, integrase inhibitors, coreceptor specific